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NSC BRIEFING

11 February 1954

HO CHI MINH

I. Is Ho dead or alive?

- A. Importance of question lies in
Ho's reputation as patriot at heart.
- B. French could better justify deal
with Ho than with other Viet
Minh leaders.

II. Viet Minh gives no clue.

- A. Propaganda refers to Ho's
activities.
- B. Daily Worker man says he saw
Ho last March.
- C. Photo of Ho; believed taken late
1952.
- D. Ho's voice unheard on Viet Minh radio
- E. Ho quoted as rallying troops in
late January.

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III. Aliases: "Who enlightens," "Patriot."

- A. Joined C.P. in Paris early '20's.
- B. Delegate to Moscow conf. 1923.
- C. Organized Viet exiles 1925-41.
- D. Organized Viet Minh in 1941:
 - 1. Worked with Americans,
Chinese during war.
 - 2. After war, Pres. of
Dem. Rep. of Vietnam.

IV. Charmed Westerners.

- A. Highly literate; keen sense humor.
- B. "Uncle Ho" in Viet Minh propaganda.

V. Probable alternate Viet Minh leaders.

- A. Truong Chinh ("Long March");
obscure but powerful theoretician.
- B. C-in-C Vo Nguyen Giap; former
history prof.

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